



January 2023—Issue No. 12

Association Newsletter

Empowering Members To Empower Us All

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THRIVING IN 2023

What does 2023 have in store for you? At the Association of ESD Professionals, we feel enthusiastic and inspired as we step into the new year with big plans for the months ahead, full bellies from the holidays behind us, and overflowing ideas for our ESD community. We can't wait to step into a thriving year with all of you!

The turn of a calendar year is always an opportunity for reflection, goal-setting, and shoot-for-the-moon-style launches of new projects and initiatives. And, that is exactly where we find ourselves.

How about you? If you're not sure where to thrive first in 2023, consider taking some time this month to write, speak, or meditate on your priorities, boundaries, and passions at this particular moment on your path. What needs to happen first? Where do you want to protect your time and energy? What is lighting you up? Let these certainties guide you to true success!

In the following pages, we will share with you a letter from our Executive Director (there is exciting news at home—and for the Association!), as well as a superabundance of ESD happenings within and beyond the Association (including our [first annual conference](#) and next round of credentialing). Read on for a sneak peek at a new year of ESD!

Please contact us at hello@esdprofessionals.org if you would like to share a celebration about your ESD work, learn more about the Association Credentialing Program, become a member, or explore other opportunities for collaboration. We always love to hear from you!

A NOTE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SAMANTHA WATERMAN

Happy New Year, ESD professionals!

The Association has big plans for 2023, and they are all about you. I am happy to share with you our vision for the Association, our members, and the ESD community worldwide!

First and foremost, we will be focused on engaging with our members—through both direct communications and our **member portal** (the software we use is called Glue Up). If you would like to learn how to form groups in the member portal, please don't hesitate to contact Modupe Poku at poku@esdprofessionals.org and she will be happy to walk you through it.

In addition, we will be working to expand and improve membership benefits. The new year will bring daycare for me, which will get the Association back on track with several projects including our ESD directory, magazine, podcast, and advocacy program. (We were delayed a bit on getting these started in the fall due to the wonderful arrival of my baby boy, Jack. I adopted him with less than one day's notice!)

Look out for a survey inviting you and other ESD professionals far and wide to be included in the **ESD Directory**, a public-facing database that will make it possible for potential class participants or partners to find ESD instructors, and for ESD instructors to be found. For our forthcoming **online magazine**, we will be soliciting content like short stories, poems, art, and music from members and other ESD professionals. Our **podcast** will include panel discussions as well as interviews featuring members and other inspiring ESD community members.

I am particularly excited about the **advocacy program** (my background is in politics). We will be forming an advisory group to help inform our advocacy agenda, and we will reach out via survey, social media, and through the member portal requesting policy ideas and priorities.

A huge thank you to all of our members! I truly believe that membership is a contribution to the worldwide ESD movement—that by joining the Association you are contributing to a greater effort to expand the reach of empowerment self-defense and change lives and prevent violence everywhere.

Let's make 2023 a wonderful year, together!

Samantha

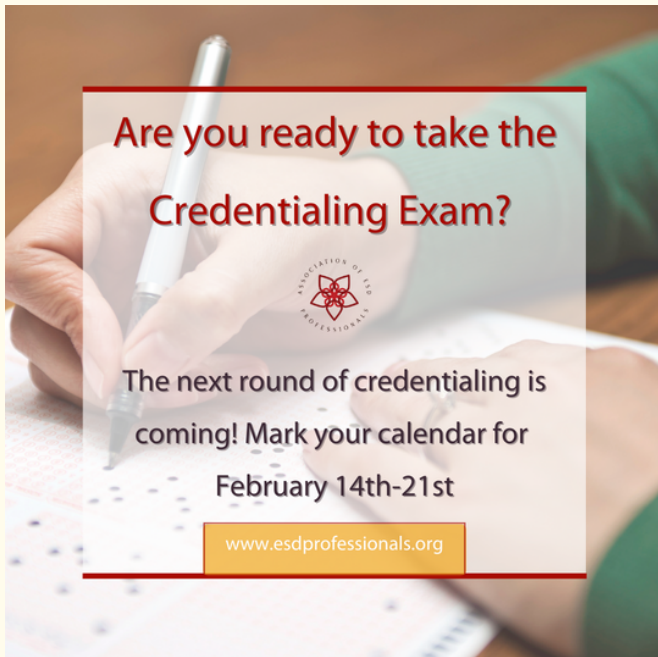


ASSOCIATION NEWS

New Year Membership Sale

Been waiting for the right moment to sign up for Association membership? **January 19th-22nd** is your opportunity to save 50% on prorated membership through March 2023 PLUS membership for the following year (April 2023-2024)! That's 15 months of membership at a 50% discount.

Ready to go? Bookmark this page to get your discounted membership on January 19th: www.esdprofessionals.org/membership. Reach out to Modupe by [email](mailto:modupe@esdprofessionals.org) if you need any support with the signup process.



Next Credentialing Exam

Save the date! Our next round of credentialing will take place **February 14-21**, with the application deadline set for **Tuesday, January 31, 5pm GMT**.

Stay tuned for an AMA (Ask Me Anything) day this month with Program Development Manager Sheila Watson. It will be the perfect opportunity to get all your questions answered about the Credentialing Exam and Program.

[Visit our website](http://www.esdprofessionals.org) to learn more!

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Office Hours with Tom is back!

Thursday, January, 26th, 11am EST | Online

Join Tom Rose and a special guest for an insightful conversation made for ESD professionals like you. Gain valuable insights for your ESD practice. Register [here](#).

Be sure to check out past recordings at our [YouTube channel](#), and reach out to hello@esdprofessionals.org with any requests for guests or topics!



Latest Blog

[Read our latest blog](#) to learn all about the first 11 ESD professionals to receive their ESDP Credential in 2022. The credential is granted to those who have written and passed a comprehensive examination, which requires that they demonstrate their knowledge of empowerment self-defense (ESD) principles, philosophy, and practice.

Curious to get credentialed? Learn more about the program [here](#).

Seeking Authors & Contributors

Our resources are created by and for ESD Professionals. While our team loves to craft blogs and How-To guides for you, we get really excited when experts, writing enthusiasts, and innovators from the ESD community add their voices to the mix. Contact Toby, our Consulting Communications Manager, at toby@esdprofessionals.org if you would like to contribute.



ESD WORLDWIDE

We're trying hard to keep the FOMO at bay, but there is just so much happening in the world of ESD, and we wish we could participate in all of it! Luckily, sharing the news with all of you is the next best thing. Ready for an ESD-packed year? We have news, events, and celebrations to share with you. Think something or someone should be included in next month's newsletter? Reach out at hello@esdprofessionals.org.

First Annual Association of ESD Professionals Conference!

Save the Date: April 27-28 | Costa Rica

After much anticipation, we are thrilled to announce the dates of the first annual Association event, to be held in Costa Rica! We can't wait to connect with many of you in person, in a country known for its efforts in building peace, combatting violence, and protecting human and environmental rights.

Stay tuned for more information coming soon, and we'll see you in April!



Women Deliver 2023 Conference

17-20 July | Kigali, Rwanda

As one of the largest multi-sectoral convenings to advance gender equality, the Women Deliver 2023 Conference will center intersectional feminist principles to address compounding issues impacting girls and women – from climate change, to gender-based violence, to unpaid care work – and collectively identify and action evidence-based solutions.

This conference will be a hybrid event, so you can attend in person, or online! Learn more and register [here](#).

**WOMEN
DELIVER 2023
CONFERENCE**

ESD WORLDWIDE

30 Years of IMPACT

Celebrating safety for students!

This year marked the 30-year anniversary of IMPACT Personal Safety teaching at Marlborough High School in Los Angeles. Lisa Gaeta taught the first classes back in 1992, and is still teaching today. Throughout these thirty years, exceptional lead instructors have taught at Marlborough, and the IMPACT team is so proud to be part of a community that values their work.

Congratulations for touching so many lives, providing students with the skills necessary to walk through the world safely and with confidence!



California Conference for WOMEN

Registration opens on September 14TH

In-Person/Santa Clara/March 1

Virtual/March 2

Elizabeth Gilbert
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, EAT PRAY LOVE

Constance Wu
ACTRESS & AUTHOR, MAKING A SCENE

Naomi Osaka
TENNIS ICON, FOUNDER & SERIAL ENTREPRENEUR AND PHILANTHROPIST

#CALWOMEN CACONFERENCEFORWOMEN.ORG

California Conference of Women

March 1-2, 2023 | Santa Clara, CA & Online

"Experts will lead practical workshops on the issues that matter most to women, including leadership, career advancement, workplace equity and inclusion, health, work/life balance and more. Experience unique opportunities for networking, professional development and personal growth live on Conference day and on-demand during Women's History month."

The 3rd annual California Conference for Women will be held in person on March 1, 2023, and virtually on March 2, 2023.

ESD WORLDWIDE

Making Waves Online

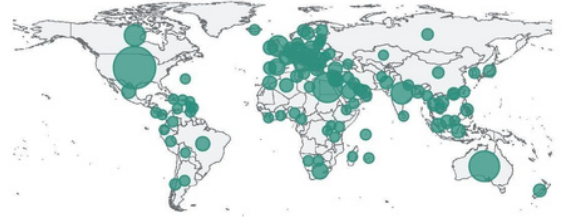
Online empowerment courses reach thousands!

ElleLiveAction Founder, Tasha Ina Church, in the Hawaiian Islands is making record numbers with her reach in 2022. Her online courses have reach over 8,000 students in 116 countries and was voted in the top 20% for all online courses on CourseMark out of over 100,000.

Way to go Tasha! Check out her work [here](#).

Your reach

See your students' locations and languages



116 countries

United States of America	33.2% (2,308)
Australia	13.9% (962)
Egypt	12.6% (873)



Women's Leadership & Empowerment Conference

March 1-3, 2023 | Bangkok, Thailand

"Imagine a world where anything was possible, creating a bigger impact on those around you and you feel inspired to take action, make changes and leave an empowering footprint wherever you have walked."

The 14th Women's Leadership and Empowerment Conference is now accepting applications. Check it out [here](#).